

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MANAMA 00574 201122Z

10

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

----- 103331

P 200955Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY 2119

S E C R E T MANAMA 0574

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS : EAID,MARR,BA

SUBJECT : BAHRAIN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

REFERENCE : STATE 115879

1. AFTER CLEARING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER, WHO WILL BE IN IRAQ WITH CROWN PRINCE FOR REST OF THIS WEEK, I APPROACHED DEVELOPMENT MINISTER SHIRAWI MAY 19 TO "FORMALLY OPEN" TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM NEGOTIATIONS. DRAWING ON REFTEL, I LAID OUT WITH COMPLETE CANDOR TIMING PROBLEM WE ARE FACING VIS-A-VIS MIDDLE EAST FORCE NEGOTIATIONS AND USE OF FY 75 FUNDS FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. I STRESSED THAT, WHILE I HAD TO ADMIT TO HAVING TRIED ON PERSONAL BASIS TO "PRESSURE" GOB TO CONCLUDE MIDDLE EAST FORCE NEGOTIATIONS, GOB MUST CLEARLY UNDERSTAND USG IS NOT TRYING TO PRESSURE GOB IN THIS REGARD. USG ACCEPTS IN GOOD FAITH FOREIGN MINISTER'S ASSURANCES RE GOB'S GOOD INTENTIONS TOWARD RETAINING MIDDLE EAST FORCE. USG RECOGNIZES GOB FEELS IT HAS A PARLIAMENTARY PROBLEM. WHILE WE MAY NOT AGREE WITH TACTIC OF DELAYING CONCLUSION NEGOTIATIONS TO DEAL WITH PARLIAMENTARY PROBLEM, WE RESPECT GOB'S JUDGEMENT ON HOW TO DEAL WITH ITS OWN PARLIAMENT. ON OTHER HAND, WE HAVE A CONGRESSIONAL PROBLEM WITH RESPECT TO USE OF FY 75 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FUNDS HERE IN ABSENCE FORMAL CONCLUSION MIDDLE EAST FORCE NEGOTIATIONS. WE ARE PREPARED TO COMMENCE NEGOTIATING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT BUT GOB MUST UNDERSTAND JUNE 13 IS OR DEADLINE FOR INFORMING CONGRESS IF WE ARE TO USE FY 75 FUNDS AND, HENCE,

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MANAMA 00574 201122Z

BE ABLE TO PLACE ADVISORS HERE THIS CALENDAR YEAR. WE HAVE

CONCLUDED IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO APPROACH CONGRESS ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR BAHRAIN IN ABSENCE SATISFACTORY CONCLUSION MIDDLE EAST FORCE NEGOTIATIONS. GOB MAY NOT AGREE WITH THIS ASSESSMENT BUT WE ARE CONFIDENT GOB WILL RESPECT OUR JUDGEMENT ON HOW TO DEAL WITH U.S. CONGRESS IN SAME MANNER IN WHICH WE RESPECT GOB'S JUDGEMENT IN DEALING WITH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

2. I FURTHER STRESSED THAT, WHILE I WAS PREPARED TO PROCEED WITH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE DISCUSSIONS, GOB MUST UNDERSTAND THAT IF WE FAILED TO MEET FY 75 DEADLINE BECAUSE OF PROBLEM NOTED ABOVE, WE AND GOB MIGHT JUST HAVE TO WAIT FOR A YEAR UNTIL U.S. TECHNICAL ADVISORS ARRIVE.

3. SHIRAWI SAID HE UNDERSTOOD COMPLETELY AND WOULD PROCEED WITH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE DISCUSSIONS ON THAT BASIS. LAUGHINGLY HE SAID "THIS INDEED IS NOT PRESSURE; IT IS BLACK-MAIL". HE THEN PROCEEDED TO ASSURE ME OF HIS PERSONAL CONVICTION THAT GOB WOULD MAKE EARLY DECISION ON MIDDLE EAST FORCE NEGOTIATIONS, POSSIBLY BY END OF MAY AFTER PRIME MINISTER'S RETURN FROM VISIT TO IRAN (HE DEPARTS MAY 24) AND, IN ANY EVENT, NOT LATER THAN "MID-JUNE". I REITERATED IMPORTANCE OF MEETING JUNE 13 DEADLINE.

4. I LEFT COPY OF DRAFT AGREEMENT WITH SHIRAWI WHO PROMISED TO STUDY IT QUICKLY. ON BASIS PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION, HE APPEARED TO HAVE NO MAJOR PROBLEM WITH IT. I ALSO REVIEWED WITH HIM LIST OF ADVISORS GOB HAS REQUESTED AND LEFT WITH IMPRESSION GOB REQUEST IS HOLDING FIRM BOTH WITH RESPECT TO TYPES OF ADVISORS DESIRED AND PRIORITIES.

TWINAM

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MANAMA00574
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750176-0892
From: MANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750536/aaaabgfj.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 115879
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 AUG 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <21 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: : BAHRAIN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
TAGS: EAID, MARR, BA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006